Hot from Alabama

Last week the space shuttle Columbia and its tethered satellite were launched. Paul Gough from the Sussex Space Science Centre reports on its progress direct from Huntsville, Alabama.

"The Space Science Centre was lucky that its instrument on this mission was located in the shuttle orbiter, and not in the tethered satellite that was lost last Sunday when the tether broke. Before the break the tether had reached 19.3km and was generating 2 kilowatts of electrical energy, and providing many new phenomena. The remainder of this week has been spent further investigating the phenomena discovered on the previous mission, STS46. Despite the tether mishap we have accumulated a rich dataset that will keep us busy for years to come. The orbiter is due to return to earth on 7 March."

University Public Lecture
Professorial Lecture
Ed Powner
Professor of Electronic Engineering
Electronics and Communication Evolution or Revolution?
6.15 pm
Thursday 7 March
Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre
All welcome

Recent spectacular advances in communications such as world-wide web are inextricably linked to developments in electronics. What has driven this relationship? How quickly has it been adopted?

Ed Powner’s professorial lecture will illustrate some of the interaction and developments over the years in a short tour via origins of morse code, radio, computing to present-day satellites and information superhighways. Ed has been fortunate enough to have worked in the electronics industry at a time when it was transformed by the invention of the transistor.

STUDENTS’ UNION
EXECUTIVE MEMBERS with Charles Dudley outside the Sea House pub in Brighton. The University has just been granted a full licence for the disused pub following a successful appeal at Lewes Crown Court against the original decision by Brighton magistrates not to grant the licence. The Sea House pub dates back to the 1790s, receiving its current name in the 1820s. It will be re-instated primarily as a social and entertainment centre for residents and the local student community. The executive also visited the site of the new University seafront residences. The building, which sits midway between Brighton’s two piers and will provide 124 bedrooms for Sussex students, should be ready for occupation this October. As with previous housing developments the Students’ Union has been regularly consulted during planning and development.

Refectory update

The smoke-damaged South End staircase should be fully functional within the next couple of weeks. The cleaning of the brickwork in the stairwell is close to completion and this will be followed by a programme of redecoration. The South End lift is operational and can be accessed through the central doors opposite the Bookshop.

Meanwhile, the University has commissioned three design consultants to develop proposals for improving the ambience of the entrance lobby including the porters’ lodge and toilets. “The Refectory is a heavily used public building,” says Charles Dudley, acting Business Director. “Reinstalling the main entrance lobby gives us the opportunity to enhance the appearance of this area and provide important facilities for our customers. In the meantime we are grateful to all staff and students for their help and understanding during this disruptive period.”
EU Research Funding Opportunities

EU: Co-operation with Developing Countries - Call for Proposals - 15 March 1996 - Research Areas: 1.1 Sustainable Management of Renewable Resources 1.2 Sustainable Improvement of Agricultural and Agro-industrial Production 1.3 Health & fields related to Information Technologies, Non-nuclear Energy, Bio-technology, Material Technologies - Deadline 12 September 1996 (Provisional)


EU: Biotechnology - Call for Proposals 15 June 1996 Research Areas: 2.2 Function Search 2.3 In Silico Analysis 3.1 Plant Molecular / Cellular Biology 3.2.3 Somatic Gene Therapy 5.1 Immunology and Immunotechnology 6.1 Structure-Function Relationships 6.2 Structural Biology / Electronics Interface 7.1 Promotive Research 7.3 Biotechnology for Environment 8 Infrastructures - Deadline 15 September 1996 (Provisional)

For further information on the above or any other EU Framework Programme IV research programme, please contact Clem Smith (x8238) E-mail: C.J.Smith@sussex

Cartoonist Kate enjoys the high life

At the time of going to press, Kate Evans, EAM graduate, campaigner and cartoonist, is up a tree somewhere near Newbury. Kate, who graduated last year, has just had her tree's perspective of the Newbury protest reprinted in the Guardian. The double page spread depicts life at the Newbury battleground in all its comic glory. According to Steve Bell, Guardian cartoonist, "Kate is one of the most original talents in comics I've seen in a long time." For a sample of her work, see opposite (kindly reprinted from Schnews, a Brighton-based campaigning newsletter).

LETTERS

Dear Editor
A recent £300,000 fire in a university laboratory should serve as a warning to all researchers to make sure that they take copies of important notes and computer disks.

In the case of the above fire, the researchers took copies but kept them in the same lab! Amazingly, not all their records were destroyed, but they should have taken copies either to their residential accommodation or to another building on the campus.

Dr Peter Ballance, University Safety and Radiation Protection Adviser

Dear Editor
There was a letter in a recent Bulletin suggesting that students should be permitted to use any idle computers in a room that was being occupied by a taught course. This matter has recently been discussed by the University's computer users consultative group whose members agreed the current policy. Anyone who feels that this policy should be reconsidered are advised to discuss the matter with their unit's group member.

It should be noted that the majority of Computing Service computers (65% of PCs and 51% of UNIX workstations) are in open access clusters and are not bookable.

Roger Discombe, Information & Training Officer, Computing Service

New Faces

Yuri Netrusov, MAPS Research Fellow
Disgruntled grant applicants take note: at least the rigmarole of securing UK research funding isn't hampered by runaway inflation. Yuri Netrusov joins Sussex from St Petersburg, where post-communist economics can drive academics round the bend. "You're awarded a grant," explains the mathematician ruefully, "but inflation is so high that by the time you get it, it's a fraction of the original value."

Yuri, who has travelled to Spain, Sweden, France and Germany, is settled for the moment in Lewes.

After enjoying Christmas festivities here, he flew back home in time for a second round of New Year partying. Snowed-up St Petersburg makes our winter look insignificant - but at least Yuri was amply supplied with vodka to fuel a warm glow.

Brenda Todd, Experimental Psychology
Brenda Todd turned to psychology after running her own marine salvage company with her husband. "We retrieved cargoes and scrap metal from wrecked boats. You're never 100% certain what you'll find. Divers found a grave-stone on one ship we salvaged. The most interesting cargo was ivory, which was on its way out to India to be carved."

After studying with the Open University whilst bringing up her family, Brenda came to Sussex as a mature student to study psychology. Alongside her teaching she's investigating the origins of nurturing in children. Women tend to hold babies on their left hand side, whereas men hold them on either side. Brenda is finding that this pattern is displayed even in children as young as three or four.

Developmental psychology can be fraught with crying babies. "The idea is to make the mothers feel so relaxed that the babies do too and behave normally. But sometimes there's absolutely nothing you can do," says Brenda.
Into the woods

Sussex University Musical and Theatre Society (SMUTS) will be performing their major 1996 production *Into the Woods* from the 6 to the 9 March at the Gardner Arts Centre. The show with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a 100-strong team of cast and crew, is one of the Society’s most ambitious projects yet, featuring spectacular scenery, and a myriad of pyrotechnical wizardry.

*Into the Woods* combines fairy tale fantasy with dark themes much closer to reality; a musical and visual juxtaposition which has captivated audiences on Broadway and the West End.

SMUTS have added their own touches to this winning formula, and their production promises to be a treat.

Tickets are on sale now: £5 (£3.50 conc).

China in their hands

ANYONE GLANCING TO THEIR right as they enter the Library over the last few months may have noticed strange goings-on involving boxes, ladders and Chinese pots. What they were in fact seeing was the first show in the Barlow Gallery to be curated by students. A group of volunteers from the Art History Subject Group worked with Curator, Craig Clunas, and Assistant Curator, Yvonne Grout, to plan and install the exhibition, *Collecting China: the Making of the Barlow Collection*.

A family snapshot of Sir Alan Barlow

Although the Barlow Collection of Chinese Ceramics, Bronzes and Jades has been on view on campus since 1974, it has recently come to be more extensively used as a teaching resource with Craig Clunas’ appointment as Curator in April last year. All art history students now get real hands-on experience of the objects in the collection, and this year the eighteen volunteers have been involved with selecting themes for display, drafting labels and panels, even interviewing members of the Barlow family for their reminiscences of Sir Alan Barlow, who formed the collection and who died in 1968. They have developed the technical skills of handling valuable and delicate objects – and even cleaned the glass and hoovered the floor, all valuable experience for those interested in a career in museums!

Craig Clunas says he is delighted with the effort and commitment students have put into the exhibition, which was supported by the CulCom Theme Year, *Communicating Otherness*. “I said at the beginning nothing must get damaged and nothing must go missing but otherwise the limits were only their own imaginations. The ideas they have come up with include showing fakes and real pieces side by side, recreating Sir Alan’s desk and singling out pieces with particular histories in the family. I hope it’ll be the first of many exhibitions of the same high quality,”

- The Barlow Collection is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11.30am to 2.30pm. Yvonne Grout will be happy to talk to anyone about the collection.

Annual Barlow Lecture

“Whereby now the furthest East is disclosed and laid open to the present age” Chinese Porcelain and the West, AD 1600–1900

by Rose Kerr

Chief Curator, Far Eastern Department, Victoria & Albert Museum

Tuesday 5 March at 6.00pm

Arts A2 Lecture Theatre

The Gallery will be open from 4.00pm to view the new exhibition Collecting China: the making of the Barlow Collection

In brief

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

For more information, call Mylene Powell in the Research Office, ext. 3812 (mornings only), email: M.G.Powell@sussex.ac.uk

SRHE YOUNGER RESEARCHER AWARD: to enable the researcher to develop competences to advance his/her research career and to undertake a study that will prepare the ground for a larger project. Closing date: 26 April 1996

PPARC SMALL AWARDS SCHEME: projects must be relevant to publicising or teaching the PPARC funded science areas: particle physics; space, ionospheric, solar and planetary science; astronomy, astrophysics and cosmology. Closing date 19 April 1996.

JOINT RESEARCH EQUIPMENT INITIATIVE (BBPSC EPSRC ESRC MRC NERC PPARC DENI HEFCE HECFW SHEFC): call for proposals. To enable high-quality research to be undertaken that is relevant to the generic Technology Foreseen science and technology priorities, and to contribute to the physical research infrastructure . Closing date: 17 June 1996.

CANADA BLANCH FELLOWSHIPS (SENIOR AND JUNIOR) to promote the study of civilisation and culture of Spain. Closing date: 31 March. 1996.

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT RESEARCH PROJECTS 1996/97: seeks expressions of interest for the following topics: employers’ attitudes towards and expectations of Education, and their requirements from the educational systems; the interface between higher education institutions and employers. The Scottish School Leavers Survey. Closing date 11 March 1996.

Language Centre

Do you need extra language practice? Call at the Language Centre in Arts A. Free computer assisted language learning facilities are available in Language Lab 3 if you want to practise Italian, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Japanese or Mandarin (writing). Times are shown on the door and staff are available to help you get started.

If you are learning on your own, don’t forget that Language Lab 1 has TV and videos as well as cassette/audio facilities. Open until 9pm weekday evenings and from 10am to 4pm on Saturdays in term time.

For further information call Reception (67/8006).
What’s on...

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- Monday 4 March
  12.30pm CCE Research Seminar: Adult education and community care: can adult education engage with the needs of informal carers? J. Vann, Arts D310.


2pm Feminism and... Lecture: Am I that name? Liberal, socialist, radical feminism and me. C. Duchen, Arts C133.

2pm CulCom Cultural Encounters Lecture: Reflections on the fate of Tipoo’s tiger: defining cultures in public display. I. Karp (Atlanta), Arts A2.


3.30pm Women’s Studies Seminar: George Elliot. J. McDonagh, Arts C133.

4.30pm Neuroscience Seminar: Bat echo location - mechanism and ecology. G. Jones (Bristol), Biology Lecture Room.


- Tuesday 5 March
  1.30pm Psychology Seminar: The emergence of perceptually based categorical representations for objects like stimuli in young infants. P. Quinn (Pittsburgh), PB2A1.

2pm Annual Barlow Lecture: Chinese Porcelain and the West: 1600-1900. Rose Kerr (Curator of Far Eastern Collection, V&A), Arts A2.

3pm Sussex European Institute Seminar: Finland and Slovenia. I. Konjghzdi. Arts A71.

4.15pm Biochemistry, Genetics & Development Seminar: Neuropeptides and their receptors in cell-cell communication. J. Burke, Biology Lecture Room.


5pm Media & Culture Seminar: Post-war German music. E. Catter (Warwick), Arts D640.

5pm International Relations Seminar: What are the new world orders for? Dreaming of war and peace. A. Williams (Kent), Arts A71.

- Wednesday 6 March
  1pm IDS Seminar: Gender, civil society and democracy. A-M Goetz, IDS Room 221.

2pm USIE Seminar: The press and cultures of understanding. C. Lacey & D. Longman, Arts D610.


2.30pm South African Studies Seminar: The truth and reconciliation commission and the rule of law in South Africa. R. Wilson, Arts C337.

4.30pm History of Art Seminar: Gender and the architect: woman clients of French architects during the enlightenment. T. Hincliffe (Westminster), Arts B151.

5pm English Colloquium: Turned loose in the library: anxiety, women and reading in the 18th century. E. Knights, Arts D630.

- Thursday 7 March
  11.30am Economics Seminar: NGOs in Bangladesh: the impact and cost effectiveness of BRAC’s microenterprise development strategies. H. Zaman, Portacabin C.

2pm History and Gender Seminar: ‘Experience as evidence?’ Women’s testimonies of maltreatment in the legal system 1900-1950. P. Cox, Arts D510.

- Monday 4 March - Sunday 10 March

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- Thursday 7 March cont.
  5pm Social & Political Thought Seminar: Habermas and his critics. Discussion with P. Dew (Essex), W. Outhwaite, G. Benjamin, Arts A71.

5pm Geography Seminar: Reconstructing home and empire: gender, space and power in Anglo-Indian hill stations. A. Blunt (Southampton), Arts D610.

5pm History Seminar: Lying. C. Condon (New South Wales), Arts A155.

5pm French Seminar: Screening of Frantz: Francon, Black Skin White Mask: I. Julien & Mark Nash (Normal Films), Arts A5.

6.15pm Professorial Lecture: Electronics and communication: evolution or revolution? Ed Pownner, Professor of Electronic Engineering. MOLS Lecture Theatre.

- Friday 8 March
  2pm SPRU Seminar: Is our faith in science superstitions? An argument for the secularisation of science policy. S. Fuller (Durham), EDB Lecture Theatre 121.

Film at the Gardener

- Monday 4 March
  7.45pm A Short Film About Killing

- Sunday 10 March
  6pm Red Firecracker. Green Firecracker
  9pm 23.58

Meeting House

- Luncheon Recital
  1.20pm, Tues 5 Mar: Neil Jenkins (Tener), Chapel.

- Lecture
  6pm Ethical Concern for Animals, Revd Prof. Andrew Lindsay (IFAW Fellow, Mansfield College, Oxford), Sallis Benney Theatre, Grand Parade, University of Brighton.

Miscellaneous

- AUT General Meeting

- Concert

- Traditional Woodland Crafts
  Sun 3 Mar, Open Day at Stammer Park. Working horses, horse-drawn wagon rides, charcoal burning, bogding, hazel splitting etc. Bring suitable footwear - it may be muddy.

- Witness wanted
  Are you tall with long, black hair, and studied Japanese/Chinese literature on the 1st floor of the library with your friend on 22 Feb. Did you see anybody taking a brown bag from the desk? Please call Richard 471435 or email r.marinelli@...